

# ILLUSTRATED SPORTING NEWS



## AND THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL REVIEW.

VOL. II.—No. 63

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1863.

ONE PENNY.

### NOTICE.

In THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING NEWS of next Saturday will be given the Companion Engraving to  
**THE ROAD TO EPSOM DOWNS,**  
 (Size of TWO WHOLE PAGES) descriptive of the  
**RETURN FROM THE DERBY.**  
 VIVIDLY PORTRAYING ALL THE HUMOUROUS INCIDENTS OF  
**THE ROAD HOME.**

In this Number will also be given  
**THE WINNER OF THE DERBY.**  
 Drawn by BEN HERRING, Esq.  
 Whose services have been specially secured for this occasion.  
 THE PRICE OF THE PAPER WILL NOT BE RAISED, notwithstanding the  
 vast expenses incurred in the production of the Two Great Engravings.  
**PRICE ONLY ONE PENNY.**

•• BEN HERRING will draw the WINNER OF THE OAKS  
 for THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING NEWS.

•• For Graphic Engravings of THE RECEPTION OF THE  
 PRINCE OF WALES AT EPSOM, see THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING  
 NEWS.

•• BEN HERRING will draw the WINNER OF THE ASCOT  
 CUP for THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING NEWS.

### SWIMMING.

#### CHAMPION CHALLENGE SWIMMING CUP.

In giving our readers an illustration of this prize—one of the best which has, up to the present, been presented for competition to swimmers—we think it not undesirable to append a few remarks as to the origin and present position of the cup.

The notion of giving a prize which should be open to all comers, and be held against all challengers for some time, had been floating about, like Mahomet's coffin, between heaven and earth, for some years, when the London Swimming Club started the project by establishing the nucleus of a fund for its purchase.

Under their auspices public meetings have been held, and hearty swimming entertainments given, in aid of the fund; but notwithstanding these, and the indefatigable exertions of Mr. Underhill, the secretary of the committee, the money has come but slowly in; and although the project itself matured to a degree that one night last autumn, the committee found themselves in a room with eleven overlooking the Thames, with the first match for the cup won, and Mr. Mather declared the winner, the funds at that time collected amounted to one half the required sum. However, three gentlemen belonging to the committee volunteered to become guarantors for the remainder of the amount, and so matters have stood during the winter, and up till now, when the affair has been virtually settled by the production of the cup.

Some rather illiberal criticism has been levelled at the promoters of this scheme for the tardiness with which the cup has been produced, and for the slowness with which the subscriptions came in. We think a little consideration will demonstrate the unfairness of this. The promoters, or committee connected with its management, have canvassed somewhat actively, but the art of swimming has not yet aroused that public sympathy and interest which renders the collection of subscriptions for a prize an easy task; and the votaries of swimming are comparatively few. We can, however, but do justice to these latter by saying that a perusal of the list of subscribers shows that nearly all the professional swimmers, almost all the leading amateurs, the clubs in their corporate character, besides individual swimmers, and generally names identified with the art, have all contributed their mite, the extraordinary help being quite insignificant.

We have dwelt on this financial part of the topic, because we think it may serve to quell a little disposition to find fault with the promotion which exists in certain quarters of the swimming community. We will only add that by the completeness of their articles for the contest, have kept entire faith with the public, and that they have done so under difficulties, which have retarded the present result, but which in our eyes, by no means diminish, but rather serve to increase, the value, to a swimmer, of the cup.

Our readers may perhaps remember the contest which took place last year. Manchester won its last representative, whilst London, although the runner put down were the best, although only third-rate men, whilst London, won and it all their own way, and must have gone back to the congratulations of their friends with the conviction that London was far the better team in swimming, and that they may have taught us a thing or two.

Mr. Mather, the winner, of whom we gave a portrait and a thumbnail sketch in the issue, as we have stated, a first-class swimmer. Mr.

Gardner has, since the contest in the Thames, been the victor in a match with him, for a distance of twenty lengths, at the Leaf-street Baths, Manchester, and this has emboldened him to put in a challenge to swim Mather in the Thames, which has been accepted, and, if all goes well, the contest will take place next month. This imparts an unwelcome interest to the competition, and speculation is rife as to who will prove the better man. It is an exceedingly difficult question to decide, as both have great powers of endurance, and both are foremost in the rank of swimmers as respects skill. The recent race between them was for such a small distance, as compared with the two miles in the Thames, that but little can be inferred from that. We can say, however, that the race will be one of the most exciting and interesting description, and that both men are well qualified to represent their respective towns.

We will not at present recapitulate the articles, but merely state that the cup has to be held for three years against all challengers; but, to secure good faith on the part of the challenger, he has to stake £25 to a similar amount on the part of the holder of the cup.

The swimming season promises to be a very fertile one in every respect, and the competitions for this cup are well calculated to awake public interest in the art. The last contest was witnessed by some thousands, and, if properly managed, in all probability there will be even a vaster concourse assembled to witness the forthcoming match than on the last occasion.

### LONDON SWIMMING CLUB.

At a meeting of the London Swimming Club, held on the 15th inst., the following resolutions were adopted in reference to the forthcoming match for the Championship of the Thames between E. B. Mather, of Manchester (member of the above club), and Gardner, of London.—That the race shall take place on Monday, June 15th; the start will take place about 80 yds above the Doves, at Hammer-smith, to Putney Aqueduct, half an hour after high water, from a barge or steamer, as may hereafter be determined on. It will be necessary for each competitor to wear drawers. Each one to appoint his own umpire, and the London Swimming Club to appoint the referee and starter. In order to give the competitors a fair and clear course the above club have determined on securing one or two Thames police galleys, and likewise asking the valuable assistance of the various rowing clubs to send their gigs, to give each competitor a fair chance.

The cup will be deposited at H. Kelly's three days prior to the race, and the winner can have it by depositing the value of it, and also giving a guarantee to make good any damage that may result to it until ultimately won according to the conditions. We hope persons in the various boats to witness the match will keep further of than they did last year, in order to give each man a good opportunity of winning.

### A HALIFAX EXHIBITOR AT THE PARIS DOG SHOW.

Mr. Jas. T. RILEY, Southgate, Halifax, was an exhibitor at the late dog show in Paris. He exhibited twenty-one dogs—nineteen retrievers and two pointers. In the former kind, of which he is a well-known breeder, he carried off the first and second prizes, 200*fr.* and 100*fr.* respectively. Mr. Riley, a few weeks ago, presented the Emperor Napoleon with a brace of retrievers, and in return he was presented by the Emperor with a couple of vases from the Sèvres Imperial works valued at 4,000 francs. At one of the last meetings of the committee, the Emperor ascertained that Mr. Riley was an exhibitor and was in Paris, and during the day he sent a courier to the hotel at which Mr. Riley was stopping, informing him that the Emperor was anxious to see Mr. Riley, the "Little Englishman." Mr. Riley of course hastened to the Palace, and had an interview with the Emperor, occupying about ten minutes, in the course of which he expressed himself pleased with the dogs which Mr. Riley had sent him, and conversed very affably on the show, &c. Subsequently, Mr. Riley applied for a "pass" to see some of the Imperial sights of Paris and neighbourhood. Mr. Riley speedily received a letter from the Emperor's secretary, and which concluded as follows:—"Admit Mr. Riley and friends. Throw open the doors to them of whatever will interest them, and then, if they are thoroughly satisfied with their visit. A thousand affectionate compliments." A party of about ten English people, including Mr. Riley, Mr. Matthias Smith, Halifax, who had been one of the judges at the dog show, Mr. John Walker, Mrs. Walker, and Miss Walker, of Osgate House, St. Paulin, near Halifax, took advantage of the favourable opportunity afforded, and visited the Palace of St. Cloud, the Imperial stables, dog kennels, shooting boxes, and model farm. They also inspected the Sèvres porcelain works, and had the exceedingly rare privilege granted them of entering the artists' room, where painting from natural objects, flowers, &c., was being carried on. During Mr. Riley's stay in Paris he had, too, an interview with Baron James Rothschild, who bought some of Mr. Riley's fine retriever dogs. He accepted an invitation from the Baron to visit his celebrated shooting grounds and preserves, which are situated about eighteen miles out of Paris, and walked through the Baron's magnificent mansion, and with him took breakfast, which was placed on the table in such a style of grandeur as astonished the "Little Englishman." Mr. Riley returned to Halifax last Wednesday night, having disposed of all his dogs except a prize brace, which he intends to keep.

### BOWLING.

NEWCASTLE.—The only interesting match decided on the Moor on Saturday last was between the celebrated veteran, Harry Brown, of Gateshead, and H. Smith, distance across the moor, for 210 yds, the former with a 250 lb ball, and the latter with a 230 lb ball. The contest between these celebrities caused the greatest interest amongst the spectators, in the North as on account of the notoriety of both competitors. It would be superfluous to notice the achievements of these performers, considering that we have a very recent number, dwelt at much length on their many remarkable conquests. The veteran's success was with E. Mather, of Manchester, head, on the 5th inst, when Brown won in any manner by upwards of 70 yds; and it may be remembered that Smith had defeated the present champion, Thomas Sait, in a contest for the championship of the middle-weight. The disparity in the bowlers may appear somewhat enormous; it is, nevertheless, a fact that some of our best bowlers have chosen a 250 lb ball in preference to even a penny-piece, and the lifting powers of the once-celebrated Harry Bell were so great that, in many instances, he has covered 94 yds in a clear lift; and, to prove light weights are not always the best to get ahead, about twenty or so contested a match across the mile, with 250 lbs each, when the wind had such an effect that it took no less than ten throws to count the distance, when the same ground had been covered in seven throws when the ball was twice the weight, and the longest distance counted gained in this match was 91 yds lift, 22 yds run, making in all 113 yds, and, therefore, be seen that, although light bowlers are the easiest to contend with, they are, nevertheless, not always a sure guarantee of success. The match on Saturday was not attended with any great or momentous result, as the contest was disputed throughout with the utmost gameness, and terminated in a manner that fully verified our foregoing remarks. Smith led for nearly a quarter of a mile, when the old one temporarily gave him the go-by. The match was conducted on pretty equal terms until, hearing the finish, when Smith forced his weapon out in a splendid manner, and eventually succeeded in defeating the veteran with upwards of 20 yds to spare.

### WRESTLING.

BUCKET and BENTLEY.—Elijah Buckley, of Mutton, and John Bentley, of Othman, are noted to wrestle the best of three back falls, Lincashire fashion, for £10 a side, at Higginshaw's, Othman, on Saturday, May 30th. Mr. Bentley, of the Crown and Cushion, Othman, now has £25 a side.

BURROUGHS and HOLMES.—Mr. Holden now has £10 a side for the best of three back falls, of Ashdon, and H. Holden, of Hildon, of Hildon, the best of three back falls, for £25 a side, at the City Grounds, Manchester, on Friday next.



THE CHAMPION CHALLENGE SWIMMING CUP.

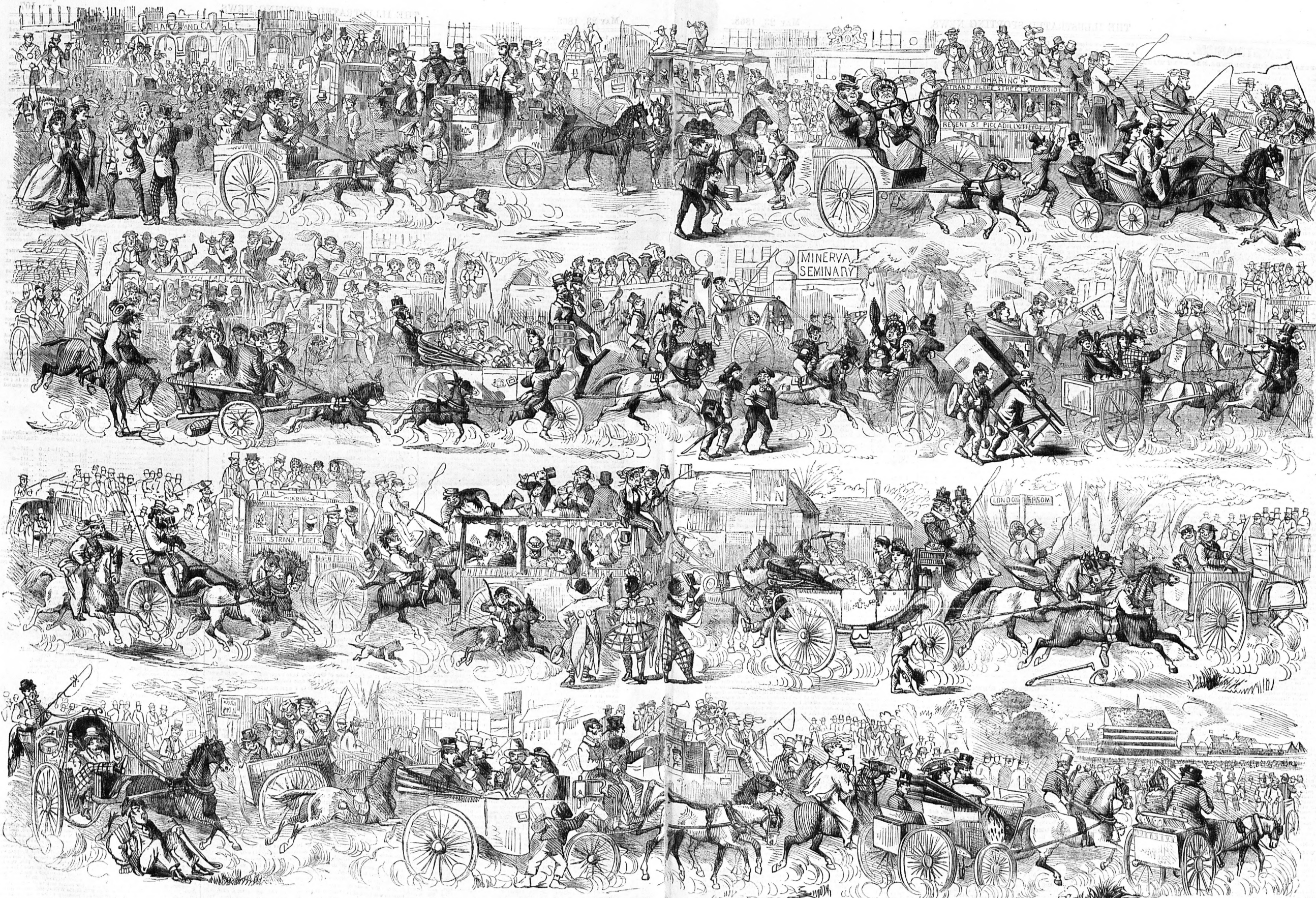
(From a Drawing by our own Artist.)











# THE ROAD TO EPSOM DOWNS:

FROM THE ELEPHANT AND CAMEL TO THE COURSE.  
(From a Drawing by our own artist.)

MOORE & WILLIAMSON



**GENTLEMEN V. PLAYERS OF KENT (ALL COLTS).**  
This Kentish colt trial match was played on Friday and Saturday last, at Mote Park, Maidstone. The weather was wet on Friday, and a high wind

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